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House Resolution No. 4434

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State retirees who admirably donate a tremendous amount of time and effort to improving the quality of life in local communities and neighborhoods through their activities as volunteers; and

Whereas, Tom Kuypers developed and maintained an excellent reputation as a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army, from which he retired after twenty years of service; an employee of Boeing, from where he retired after twenty years; and a member of the Saint Charles County Republican Central Committee, of which eight of his fourteen years were served as Chairman; and

Whereas, Tom Kuypers now serves as a volunteer tour guide at the Saint Louis Zoo, which is open 363 days of the year, attracts 9 million visitors, and contains 9,000 animals; and

Whereas, in his role as a volunteer tour guide, Tom Kuypers leads groups of fifteen or more persons on tours of the public and private areas of the Saint Louis Zoo, including a behind-the-scenes look at the control room for Penguin and Puffin Coast; and

Whereas, Tom Kuypers not only guides humans around the various animal enclosures, he also volunteers at the new \$5.3 million Orthwein Animal Nutrition Center by preparing "challenge meals" that zoo animals much search for in order to consume; and

Whereas, Tom Kuypers has visited other zoos besides the Saint Louis Zoo, including facilities in Berlin, Germany; Frankfurt, Germany; Copenhagen, Denmark; and San Diego, California; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper that the Missouri House of Representatives should pause in its diverse daily activities in order to recognize such outstanding Missouri citizens as Tom Kuypers:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the personal and professional accomplishments garnered thus far in life by Tom Kuypers and to convey to him this legislative body's most heartfelt commendation of his activities as a Saint Louis Zoo volunteer tour guide; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Tom Kuypers of Saint Charles, Missouri.

Offered by
Representative Joe Smith
District No. 14
I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4434, adopted August 13, 2007.